

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

MODIFICATION OF MAIL CLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE FOR
PRIORITY MAIL EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL

Docket No. MC2014-30

NOTICE OF MINOR CLASSIFICATION CHANGES
(July 1, 2014)

Pursuant to 39 C.F.R. §§ 3020.90 and 3020.91, the United States Postal Service (Postal Service) hereby gives notice of minor changes to the Mail Classification Schedule (MCS) concerning Priority Mail Express International (PMEI).

The classification changes add new country group assignments for PMEI service to 15 additional countries in order to serve more customers. The classification changes are set forth in Attachment 1 to this notice. This measure will increase the available shipping options to the affected destinations, and offer customers the speed and reliability of PMEI, as well as insurance features that differ from Priority Mail International (PMI).

With one possible exception,¹ the Postal Service cannot predict when it will commence service to any of the newly named destination countries. This is because the Postal Service is in the process of securing bilateral agreements for the exchange of PMEI with the affected countries, and once signed, systems changes would have to be made in order to effectuate outbound service. Nonetheless, the Postal Service proposes that the Commission evaluate the country group rate assignments in the MCS

¹ The Postal Service is currently planning to begin dispatching PMEI shipments to Lebanon beginning on September 7, 2014.

in a single filing to simplify the administration of the Commission's proceedings, and to avert the need for the initiation of multiple minor classification filings for the addition of each new destination once the particulars of the exchange of EMS are finalized. To do otherwise would require, for each filing, that the Commission issue a docketing notice and order, publish a Federal Register notice, assign a Public Representative, and issue a final order. To further simplify procedures, the Postal Service proposes to notify the Commission by the filing of subsequent notices in this docket of the start date of service to any of the countries identified in the attachment. The Postal Service submits that these changes are minor in nature. Each new destination is expected to result in little volume.

When presented with a similar situation, the Commission granted a Postal Service motion for reconsideration challenging the notion that the addition of country group assignment is tantamount to a price change.² In that proceeding, the Commission acknowledged that a minor change to add Priority Mail International (PMI) rates to three destination countries may be filed pursuant to the rules applicable to minor classification set forth at 39 C.F.R. § 3020.90 *et seq.*, instead of pursuant to 39 C.F.R. § 3015.³ While that matter concerned the assignment of PMI country group assignments for a segment of letter post mail which was branded as PMI, the Commission was able to conclude that the addition of the country groups was not tantamount to a price change. Here, given the identity of the countries under consideration, the volume impacts are likely to be small, and the country group assignments are derived logically according to geographic region.

² See PRC Order No. 205, Order Granting Reconsideration of Order No. 183, Docket No. MC2009-16, April 22, 2009.

³ *Id.* at 4.

The Postal Service submits that the change can be considered under the Commission's rules for minor classification changes without the need for further analysis. In sum, the Postal Service believes that the changes are consistent with 39 C.F.R. §§ 3020.90 and 3020.91 and should be incorporated by the Commission into the MCS.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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July 1, 2014

PART D

COUNTRY PRICE LISTS FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

4000 COUNTRY PRICE LISTS FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

Country	Market Domi- nant SPFCMI ¹	Competitive				
		FCPIS ²	International Expedited Services		Intern- ational Pack- ages PMI ⁵	IPA & ISAL ⁶
			GXG ³	PMEI ⁴		

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Afghanistan	6	6	6	<u>6</u>	6	19
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Antigua & Barbuda	9	9	7	<u>9</u>	9	17
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British Virgin Islands	9	9	7	<u>9</u>	9	17
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Burma (Myanmar)	6	6	-	<u>6</u>	6	19
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Comoros	7	7	-	<u>7</u>	7	19
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Gambia	7	7	4	<u>7</u>	7	19
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Gibraltar	5	5	4	<u>5</u>	5	15
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Kiribati	6	6	-	<u>6</u>	6	18
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Kosovo	5	5	4	<u>5</u>	5	16
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Lebanon	8	8	6	<u>8</u>	8	19
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Libya	8	8	4	<u>8</u>	8	19
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Montenegro	5	5	4	<u>5</u>	5	17
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Sao Tome & Principe	7	7	-	<u>7</u>	7	16
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Suriname	9	9	8	<u>9</u>	9	17
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Tuvalu	6	6	-	<u>6</u>	6	18
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